THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force:

At this very moment, Airmen are hard at work standing guard over nuclear assets, combating extremism, and fighting disease. You're also tracking satellites, opening airfields, defending our networks, and so much more. Indeed, your commitment and sacrifice allows Americans to celebrate this holiday season in safety. We've seen your pride, passion, and professionalism all across the globe, and are grateful for our Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, and Civilian Airmen. Together, you make up the finest Air Force that the world has ever known.

While many of you will celebrate the holidays with family and friends, our thoughts are particularly with the thousands of deployed Airmen who will spend the festive season away from loved ones in service of our nation. The sacrifices you make earn the deep and abiding respect of your fellow Airmen and Americans. We look forward to your safe return.

For those of us who will enjoy the holiday season at home, please remember our deployed Airmen - reach out to their families and friends with thanks and support. Encouraging those who miss their loved ones is just one way to show the true spirit of the Air Force family.

Thank you for your dedicated service and for the countless sacrifices that you and your families make to protect our freedoms and keep our nation secure. We wish you a safe and happy holiday season and all the best throughout the New Year.

Deborah Lee James
Secretary of the Air Force

Mark A. Welsh III
General, USAF
Chief of Staff

James A. Cody
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force